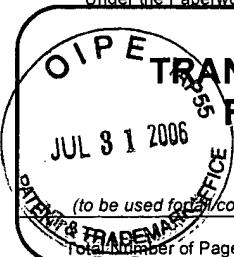


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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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 <p>TRANSMITTAL FORM JUL 31 2006 <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i></p>		Application Number 10/628,884
		Filing Date July 28, 2003
		First Named Inventor Shlaes et al.
		Art Unit 2166
		Examiner Name Mohamman Ali
Total Number of Pages in This Submission 5		Attorney Docket Number 23688.04164

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

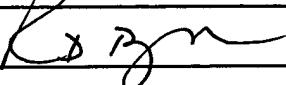
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): - Return Receipt Postcard - Response to Restriction Requirement
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<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	
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<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name Calfee, Halter & Griswold, LLP	
Signature 	
Printed name Alan C. Brandt	
Date 26 July 2006	Reg. No. 50,218

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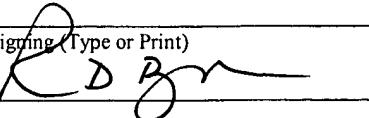
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shlaes et al.) Examiner: Mohammad Ali
Serial No.: 10/628,884) Group Art Unit: 2166
Filed: July 28, 2003) Confirmation No.: 3865
For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM**) Attorney Docket No.: 23688.04164
OF UNIFYING DATA)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) on June 26, 2006 and indicating the claims in the above-identified patent application are subject to a restriction and/or election requirement. In response, the applicants respectfully traverse the election/restrictions and requests the USPTO to reconsider the restriction requirement.

The present application was filed with twenty-three (23) claims, including independent claims 1, 7, 16, and 20. In summary, the Office Action divides the claims into two groups of allegedly independent and distinct inventions. The two groups are identified as follows:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Serial No. 10/294,285

Group I. Claims 1-19 are drawn to using the data access mechanism of the single data source to facilitate access to the single data source, classified in class 707, subclass 9.

Group II. Claims 20-23 are drawn to populating the columns of the result set with data retrieved from the query, classified in class 707, subclass 102.

The Office Action argues that the inventions associated with the two groups are related as subcombinations disclosed as usable together in a single combination but that are distinct because they are separately usable. Additionally, the USPTO supports the restriction requirement by stating that the inventions have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification.

The applicants respectfully disagree that the two groups define independent and distinct inventions. For example, Groups I and II are both directed to a system or method that provides a set of results to a user query by accessing one or more data sources using a data access mechanism associated with each of the data sources in class 707. Therefore, the applicants respectfully request the USPTO to reconsider the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action of June 26, 2006 and to examine all claims of the application.

Nevertheless, to fully address the restriction requirement, the applicants hereby elect Group I (i.e., claims 1-19) for further prosecution. However, the applicant maintains the right to file additional applications in connection with the non-elected group (i.e., claims 20-23).

The applicants believe that no additional fee is associated with this Response to Restriction Requirement. However, should any fee or fee deficiency be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any and all fees associated with this Response to Restriction Requirement to deposit account number 03-0172. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 26 July 2006


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